



The Worship of God

The Third Sunday of Lent

March 8, 2026 | 10:00a

Inspired by the bold and boundless hospitality of Jesus, we are “open to all,” which means we welcome and accept all people into the life of our Church without regard to race, gender, sexual orientation, age, economic status, political affiliation, physical or mental capacity, or religious belief. We believe that God’s call is given to all people, and we embrace the Spirit that continues to cross boundaries in order to unite the world.

**Childcare is available for birth – kindergarten in the childcare room located in the Cornwell Center (on main level). Please see a greeter for more information.
Worship activities for children are available in the Narthex.**

We invite you to prepare for worship in silence while listening to the prelude.

Prelude

Dawn Anthony

“The Goodness of God”

J. Johnson, E. Cash, J. Ingram, B. Fielding, B. Johnson

I love you, Lord.

Oh, your mercy never failed me.

And all my days, I've been held in your hands.

From the moment that I wake up

until I lay my head,

oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

Refrain:

All my life you have been faithful.

All my life you have been so, so good.

With every breath that I am able,

oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

I love your voice.

You have led me through the fire.

In darkest night, you are close like no other.

I've known you as a father;

I've known you as a friend.

Oh, I have lived in the goodness of God. *[Refrain]*

Bridge:

Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.

Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.

With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now,

I give you everything. *[Refrain]*

Call to Worship

J. Kevin Gray

Leader: Jesus meets us at the well and changes the conversation we thought we were having.

People: **Living Christ, shift our stories from fear to truth, from silence to courageous love.**

Leader: When barriers of culture, gender, and religion fall, living water begins to rise among us.

People: **Make us wells of justice and mercy, that all may drink and find new life.**

Invocation

*Opening Hymn

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

see page 7
NETTLETON

If you are our guest today, please scan the QR code below so we may offer you our gratitude for joining us today.



*Passing of the Peace

Invitation to Confession

Marina Luckhoo

A Time for Silent Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of living water,
you meet us in honest places and invite us into deeper truth.
We confess that we sometimes cling to comfort,
turn away from hard conversations,
or settle for habits that keep us divided.
We admit the ways we have withheld compassion,
resisted change, or doubted our own belovedness.
Gently uncover what keeps us from love.
Loosen what binds us to fear.
Renew in us the courage to cross boundaries,
to listen with humility,
and to become vessels of justice and joy.
In your mercy, keep shaping us into a community
where all are seen, all are heard, and all can draw living water.
Amen.

Song of Prayer

“Hear Our Prayer, O Lord”

AFTER PRAYER

Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord; in -

cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace. A - men.

Leader: Be assured that God is merciful.
Be assured that God’s everlasting arms embrace you.
Be assured that you are beloved and forgiven.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading – John 4:5-29; 39-42 (NRSV)

Gary Hudson, Congregant

So, Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.” The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband,’ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!” The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” So, when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

Leader: This is the Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Sermon Hymn

Daniel Iverson

“Spirit of the Living God”
Spirit of the living God,
fall a-fresh on me!

Spirit of the living God,
fall a-fresh on me!

Break me, melt me,
mold me, fill me.

Spirit of the living God,
fall a-fresh on me!

Sermon

“When Jesus Changed His Message”

Rev. Dr. Tim Moore

A Moment to Reflect

Musical Reflection

“Center of My Joy”

Dawn Anthony
Richard Smallwood

Church at Prayer

Dane Jordan

The Lord’s Prayer

Our God who is in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation to Offering

Deborah Steiner, Choir Member

*You are invited to give by scanning the QR code below or
dropping your offering in the plate.*



Offertory Anthem

“The Invitation” text is from Isaiah 55:1,6

Come, you who thirst, come to the water, and you who have nothing come buy and eat.
Come to me, oh, come to me.
Seek me while I may be found. Call on me while I am near.
Come, you who thirst, come to the water, and you who have nothing come by and eat.

Chancel Choir
Craig Courtney

*Presentation of Gifts and the Doxology

**O Glorious God, to you we bring
praise, treasures, lives as offering;
empower each repentant heart
to follow Christ when we depart.**

OLD HUNDREDTH
text by Paula Testerman

*Prayer of Dedication

Deborah Steiner, Choir Member

*Closing Hymn

“Not Alone for Mighty Empire” stanzas 1 and 2

Number 289
HYFRYDOL

Pastoral Blessing

Rev. Dr. Tim Moore

Postlude

“Hyfrydol”

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organist
Healey Willan

If you are our guest today, please connect with a minister after worship and receive a Welcome Bag.



Audio/Video Team Members are Wes Cobb, Joe Kuhlmann, Hannah Combs and Eric Roberts.



At Myers Park Baptist Church, we strive for inclusive language. However, there are times due to the historical nature or context of the text that we choose to leave language unchanged as initially presented. Be assured that MPBC holds God as non-gender-specific; God's essence encompasses all.



HOW TO JOIN MYERS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Becoming a member of Myers Park Baptist is as simple as filling out a joining card. To receive a card or learn more, contact Rev. Marina Luckhoo at mluckhoo@myersparkbaptist.org.



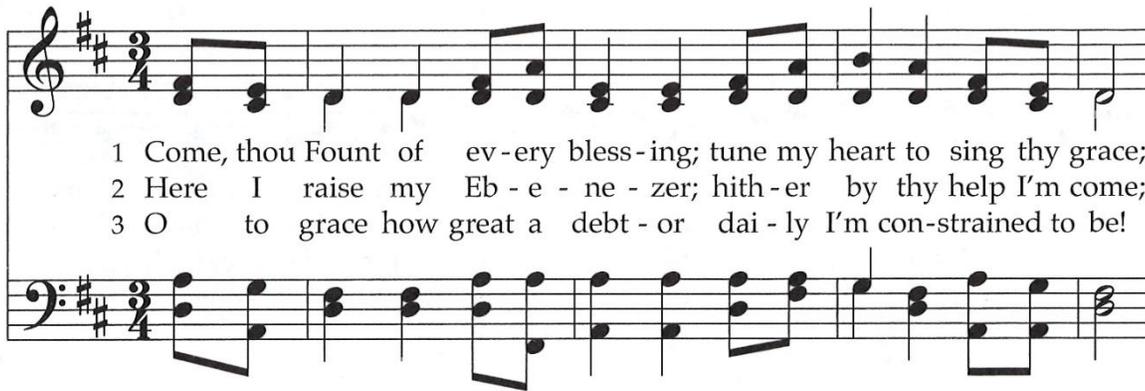
To learn more about upcoming events, our church portal, social media pages, and weekly newsletter, simply scan the QR code below.

WE'RE GLAD YOU ARE HERE
CONNECT WITH US IN ONE EASY STOP

- **EVENTS**
- **GUESTS**
- **GIVE**
- **PRAY**
- **WEBSITE**
- **MEMBER PORTAL**

Learn more about us and how to get involved. Just point the camera on your mobile phone at the QR Code to access the items listed above.

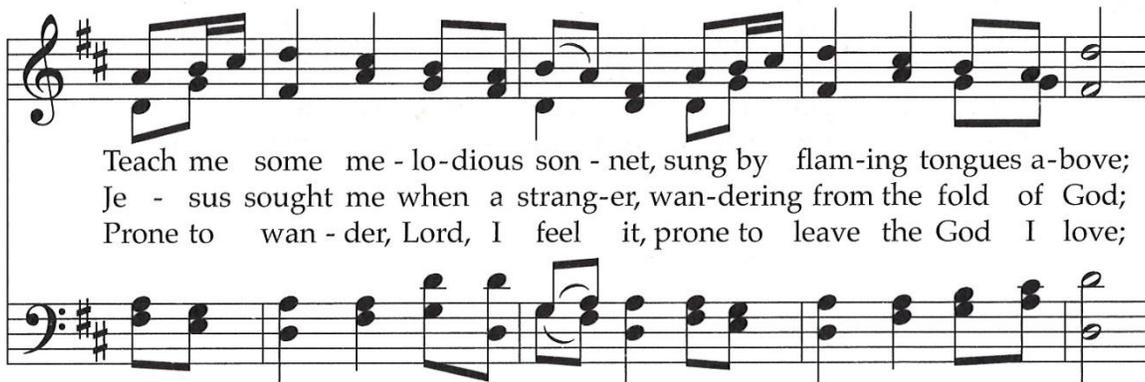
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



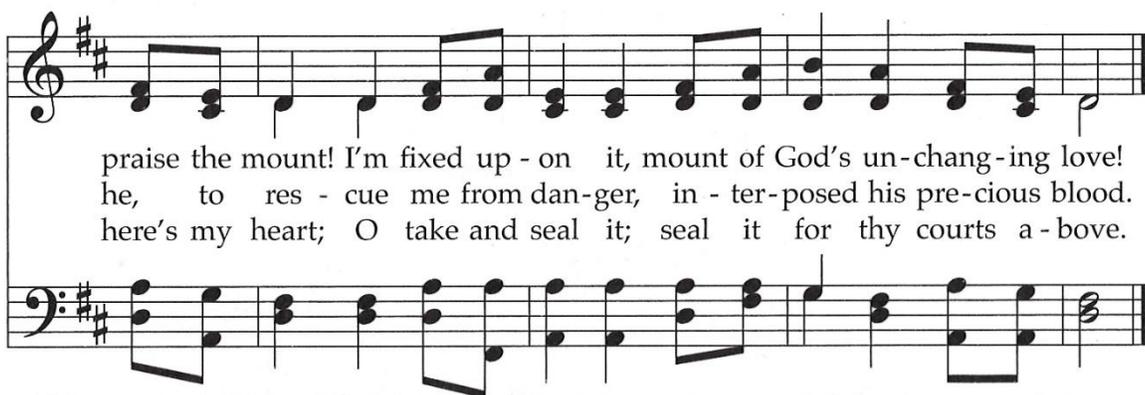
1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith - er by thy help I'm come;
3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be!



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee.



Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove;
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - dering from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;



praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love!
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Written for Pentecost by a British Baptist pastor, this text is full of biblical terms like "Ebenezer" (1 Samuel 7:12), Hebrew for "a stone of help" set up to give thanks for God's assistance. The tune name honors hymnal compiler Asahel Nettleton, who probably did not compose it.

Our Covenant

We, the members of the Myers Park Baptist Church, are a people on a journey of faith. By God's grace we are experiencing love through Jesus Christ and in the community of the faithful. We are discovering in this experience our freedom to become new creatures and our responsibility to be faithful stewards of our lives and of this world.

We will be open to all new light, strengthened by God and each other in our faith. We will sustain a critical examination of Scripture, belief and ritual as interpreters of God's active presence in the world. We will accept controversy as a reality of life together and an opportunity for growth toward maturity. We covenant to be a community of God's New Creation and affirm that we are open to all and closed to none.

We covenant together to nurture this church as a community of faith and as an instrument for reconciliation in the world: by worship, by Christian education, by the dedication of our personal and material resources and by all the other ways we express the significance of our lives with God and one another.

We covenant together to be priests celebrating God's presence in community and in the world, believing we are participants in God's kingdom on Earth.

OUR MINISTERS

J. Kevin Gray

Minister of Music & Worship
kgray@myersparkbaptist.org

Rev. Dane Jordan

Interim Minister of Youth
djordan@myersparkbaptist.org

Rev. Marina Luckhoo

Associate Minister
mluckhoo@myersparkbaptist.org

Rev. Dr. Layne Smith

Interim Senior Minister
lsmith@myersparkbaptist.org

704.334.7232

mpbc@myersparkbaptist.org

We are affiliated with
allianceofbaptists.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, March 8

10:00am-11:00am | Worship – Sanctuary
11:15am-12:15am | Spiritual Growth Classes for all ages – Multiple Locations
11:15am-12:15pm | Senior Minister Search Committee Meeting – Conference Room
4:00pm-6:00pm | The Youth Journey Fellowship – Youth Hall

Monday, March 9

9:45am-12:00pm | Roundtable Meeting – Parlor

Tuesday, March 10

8:00am-3:30pm | Roof Above Meal Prep – Kitchen

Saturday, March 14

2:00pm | Hilda Hull Memorial Service – Sanctuary

Sunday, March 15

10:00am-11:00am | Worship – Sanctuary
11:00am | Congregational Meeting - Sanctuary
11:15am-12:15am | Spiritual Growth Classes for all ages – Multiple Locations
11:15am-12:15pm | Senior Minister Search Committee Meeting – Conference Room
4:00pm-6:00pm | The Youth Journey Fellowship

We occasionally take photographs during our worship service. If you would prefer not to be included, please contact Laura Geer | Communications Director | lgeer@myersparkbaptist.org.

One License A-729324 | WorshipCast License CCS # WC-12779 | CVLI Video License #504 239 870